

REMARKS

The Advisory Action dated July 10, 2006, has been received and carefully considered. This amendment is being filed concurrently with an RCE Transmittal. Reconsideration of the outstanding rejections in the present application is respectfully requested based on the foregoing amendments.

Claims 1, 9 and 15 have been amended. Claims 2, 8, 10 and 16 are canceled. Claims 1, 3-7, 9, 11-15, 17-20 are currently pending.

CONCLUSION

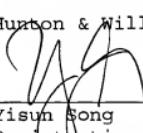
In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance, and an early indication of the same is courteously solicited. The Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned by telephone at the below listed telephone number, in order to expedite resolution of any issues and to expedite passage of the present application to issue, if any comments, questions, or suggestions arise in connection with the present application.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR § 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account No. 50-0206, and please credit any excess fees to the same deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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